

LIST OF CURRENT CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for processing ~~sheet material in~~ different successively processed groups of loose sheet material, comprising the following method steps:

separating the different groups of sheet material, and

processing the separate groups of sheet material, said step of processing including examining the fitness or obtaining information of loose sheet material of each group of sheet material,

wherein a separator card is used for separating the different groups of sheet material, and at least one information carrier is used for processing the different groups of sheet material and bears information specific to a group of sheet material, the separator card and the at least one information carrier being separate from one another.

2. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the at least one information carrier is inserted at any points within the different groups of sheet material.

3. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the separator card is inserted at the beginning of each different group of sheet material, and the at least one information carrier is inserted at the end of each different group of sheet material.

4. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 or 3, wherein subgroups of sheet material are formed by using a plurality of information carriers within a group of sheet material.

5. (Previously Presented) A method according to any one of claims 1, 2 or 3, wherein the separator card and the at least one information carrier are brought together with the groups of sheet material at different places.

6. (Previously Presented) A method according to any one of claims 1, 2 or 3, wherein a deliverer of one or more groups of sheet material provides the at least one information carrier with information.

7. (Amended) Means for separating and processing different groups of loose sheet material transported in a sheet processing device, the means comprising;

at least one separator card arranged to provide an indication of a separate group of loose sheet material ~~to the~~ as the groups are successively transported in a sheet processing device; and

at least one information carrier arranged to provide specific ~~information to the~~ sheet processing device concerning a group of loose sheet material as the groups are successively transported in a sheet processing device;

wherein the at least one separator card and the at least one information carrier are separate from one another.

8. (Previously Presented) Means according to claim 7, wherein the separator card-and/or the at least one information carrier are coded.

9. (Previously Presented) Means according to claim 8, wherein the coding of the separator card and/or the at least one information carrier comprise a magnetic and/or optical and/or electric and/or electronic coding.

10. (Previously Presented) Means according to one of claims 7 to 9, wherein the at least one information carrier is formed by part of the sheet material.

11. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 4, wherein the separator card and the at least one information carrier are brought together with the groups of sheet material at different places.

12. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 4, wherein a deliverer of one or more groups of sheet material provides the at least one information carrier with information.

13. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 5, wherein a deliverer of one or more groups of sheet material provides the at least one information carrier with information.

14. (New) Means according to claim 7, wherein the at least one separator card possesses physical properties different from physical properties of the loose sheet material.

15. (New) Means according to claim 7, wherein the groups of sheet material are defined by deposits of individual bank notes, said at least one information carrier bearing deposit data for an individual group of sheet material.